NUMB. DXXII.

The SPECTATOR.

——Adjuro nunquam eam me deſerturum,
Non, ſi capiundos mihi ſciam eſſe inimicos omneis homines.
Hanc mihi expetivi, contigit: conveniunt mores: valeant
Qui inter nos diſſidium volunt: hanc, niſi mors,
Mi adimet nemo. Ter.

Wedneſday, October 29. 1712.

I Should eſteem my ſelf a very happy Man, if my Speculations could in the leaſt contribute to the rectifying the Conduct of my Readers in one of the moſt important Affairs of Life, to wit, their Choice in Marriage. This State is the Foundation of Community, and the chief Band of Society; and I do not think I can be too frequent on Subjects which may give Light to my unmatried Readers, in a Particular which is ſo eſſential to their following Happineſs or Miſery. A virtuous Diſpoſition, a good Underſtanding, an agreeable Perſon, and an eaſy Fortune, are the Things which ſhould be chiefly regarded on this Occaſion. Becauſe my preſent View is to direct a young Lady, who, I think, is now in Doubt whom to take of many Lovers, I ſhall talk at this Time to my female Reader. The Advantages, as I was going to ſay, of Senſe, Beauty, and Riches, are what are certainly the chief Motives to a prudent young Woman of Fortune for changing her Condition; but as ſhe is to have her Eye upon each of theſe, ſhe is to aſk her ſelf whether the Man who has moſt of theſe Recommendations in the Lump is not the moſt deſirable. He that has excellent Talents, with a moderate Eſtate, and an agreeable Perſon, is preferable to him who is only rich, if it were only that good Faculties may purchaſe Riches, but Riches cannot purchaſe worthy Endowments. I do not mean that Wit, and a Capacity to entertain, is what ſhould be highly valued, except it is founded upon Good-nature and Humanity. There are many ingenious Men, whoſe Abilities do little elſe but make themſelves and thoſe about them uneaſy: Such are thoſe who are far gone in the Pleaſures of the Town, who cannot ſupport Life without quick Senſations and gay Reflections, and are Strangers to Tranquility, to right Reaſon, and a calm Motion of Spirits without Tranſport or Dejection. Theſe ingenious Men, of all Men living, are moſt to be avoided by her who would be happy in an Husband. They are immediately ſated with Poſſeſſion, and muſt neceſſarily fly to new Acquiſitions of Beauty, to paſs away the whiling Moments and Intervals of Life; for with them every Hour is heavy that is not joyful. But there is a ſort of Man of Wit and Senſe, that can reflect upon his own Make, and that of his Partner, with the Eyes of Reaſon and Honour, and who believes he offends againſt both theſe, if he does not look upon the Woman (who choſe him to be under his Protection in Sickneſs and Health) with the utmoſt Gratitude, whether from that Moment ſhe is ſhining or defective in Perſon or Mind: I ſay there are thoſe who think themſelves bound to ſupply with good Nature the Failings of thoſe who love them, and who always think thoſe the Objects of Love and Pity, who came to their Arms the Objects of Joy and Admiration.

Of this latter ſort is *Lyſander*, a Man of Wit, Learning, Sobriety, and Good-nature, of Birth and Eſtate below no Woman to accept, and of whom it might be ſaid, Should he ſucceed in his preſent Wiſhes his Miſtreſs raiſed his Fortune, but not that ſhe made it. When a Woman is deliberating with her ſelf whom ſhe ſhall chuſe of many near each other in other Pretenſions, certainly he of beſt Underſtanding is to be prefer'd. Life hangs heavily in the repeated Converſation of one who has no Imagination to be fired at the ſeveral Occaſions and Objects which come before him, or who cannot ſtrike out of his Reflections new Paths of pleaſing Diſcourſe. Honeſt *Will. Thraſh* and his Wife, tho' not married above four Months, have ſcarce had a Word to ſay to each other this ſix Weeks; and one cannot form to one's ſelf a ſillier Picture, than theſe two Creatures in ſolemn Pomp and Plenty unable to enjoy their Fortunes, and at a full Stop among a Crowd of Servants, to whoſe Taſte of Life they are beholden for the little Satisfactions by which they can be underſtood to be ſo much as barely in Being. The Hours of the Day, the Diſtinctions of Noon and Night, Dinner and Supper, are the greateſt Notices they are capable of. This is perhaps repreſenting the Life of a very modeſt Woman, joined to a dull Fellow, more inſipid than it really deſerves; but I am ſure it is not to exalt the Commerce with an ingenious Companion too high, to ſay that every new Accident or Object which comes into ſuch a Gentleman's Way, gives his Wife new Pleaſures and Satisfactions. The Approbation of his Words and Actions is a continual new Feaſt to her; nor can ſhe enough applaud her good Fortune in having her Life varied every Hour; her Mind more improved, and her Heart more glad from every Circumſtance which they meet with. He will lay out his Invention in forming new Plea-

ſures

force and Amusements, and make the Fortune she has brought him subservient to the Honour and Reputation of her and her's. A Man of Sense who is thus obliged, is ever contriving the Happiness of her who did him so great a Distinction; while the Fool is ungrateful without Vice, and never returns a Favour because he is not sensible of it. I would, methinks, have so much to say for my self, that if I fell into the Hands of him who treated me ill, he should be sensible when he did so: His Conscience should be of my Side, whatever became of his Inclination. I do not know but it is the unfixed Choice which has been made by those who have the Care of young Women, that the Marriage State it self has been liable to so much Ridicule. But a well-chosen Love, moved by Passion on both Sides, and perfected by the Generosity of one Party, must be adorn'd with so many handsome Incidents on the other Side, that every particular Couple would be an Example in many Circumstances to all the rest of the Species. I shall end the Chat upon this Subject with a Couple of Letters, one from a Lover who is very well acquainted with the Way of bargaining on these Occasions; and the other from his Rival, who has a less Estate, but great Gallantry of Temper. As for my Man of Prudence, who makes Love, as he says, as if he were already a Father, and laying aside the Passion, comes to the Reason of the Thing.

Madam,

'MY Council has perused the Inventory of your Estate, and considered what Estate you have, which it seems is only yours, and to the Male Heris of your Body; but, in Default of such Issue, to the right Heirs of your Uncle *Edward* for ever. Thus, Madam, I am advised you cannot (the Remainder not being in you) dock the Entail; by which means my Estate, which is Fee Simple, will come by the Settlement proposed to your Children begotten by me, whether they are Males or Females; but my Children begotten upon you will not inherit your Lands, except I beget a Son. Now, Madam, since Things are so, you are a Woman of that Prudence, and understand the World so well, as not to expect I should give you more than you can give me.

I am, Madam,

(with great Respect)

Your most obedient humble Servant,

T. W.

The other Lover's Estate is less than this Gentleman's, but he express'd himself as follows.

Madam,

'I Have given in my Estate to your Council, and desired my own Lawyer to insist upon no Terms which your Friends can propose for your certain Ease and Advantage; For indeed I have no Notion of making Difficulties of consenting you with what cannot make me happy without you.

I am, Madam,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

B. T.

You must know the Relations have met upon this, and the Girl being mightily taken with the latter Epistle, she laugh'd out, and Uncle *Edward* is to be dealt with to make her a suitable Match to the worthy Gentleman who has told her he does not care a Farthing for her. All I hope for is, that the Lady *Fair* will make use of the first light Night to shew *B. T.* she understands a Marriage is not to be considered as a common Bargain.

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this present Wednesday, being the 29th of October, will be presented a Play call'd the Libertine destroy'd. The Part of Don John by Mr. Mills, Don Francisco by Mr. Keen, Don Antonio by Mr. Thurmond, Don Lopez by Mr. Bickerstaff, Jacomo by Mr. Johnson, Maria by Mrs. Porter. And to-morrow, being Thursday, will be presented a Comedy call'd She wou'd if she cou'd. By Her Majesty's Command no Persons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

Yesterday was Published,

A Poem to his Excellency the Lord Privy-Seal, on the Prospect of PEACE. By Mr. Tickell. Printed for J. Tonson at Shakespear's Head, over against Catherine-street in the Strand.

PLAYING-CARDS.

Being a Collection of Whist, Basset, Ombre, and Ordinary Cards of the best Makers, Part of the Stock chargeable but with the Half penny Duty. Sold by John Cliff in Queen-street Cheapside, where all Gentlemen, Traders, &c. may be supplied with any Quantity at the very lowest Prices.

For SALE by the CANDLE.

On Thursday the 6th of November, at Garraway's Coffee-house in Exchange-Ally in Cornhill, at 4 in the Afternoon, about 50 Casks of fine Batavia Arrack, genuine, and of the true Flavour (only 1 Cask in a Lot, gage, 40 Gallons and above) being the remaining Part of the Arrack imported by the Oley Frigate, Capt. Opie from the East Indies. Now in Warehouses (where they have continued neat ever since Landed) at Ratcliff Wharf between London-bridge and Billingsgate. To be then and there sold on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 4th and 5th of November next, and all Thursday (as above) till the Time of Sale; Catalogues shall be timely dispersed, and to be had at the Place of Sale, and where the said Arrack is. To be sold by Tho. Tomkins, Broker, in Scething-lane in Tower-Street.

At the Star and Two Rolls of Silk in St. Martin's-Le-Grand, the first Silk Shop on the Right-Hand going down St. Martins from Newgate-street, is sold all Sorts of the best Black Silks for Hoods and Scarves, rich black Paduasways for Gowns and Petticoats, and Mantuas, both Black and coloured; likewise white Sarsenets and Persians for Hoods, colour'd Persians for Linings, Black Velvets, Gawses, Furbelow'd Scarves and Aprons ready made at reasonable Rates. Note, The Shop is a new Shop just open'd.

At the old Warehouse, is just now made up a fresh Parcel of morning Gowns for Men and Women of Brocades, rich Damasks, Sattens, Callicoes and Stuffs, with very suitable Linings, and will be sold much cheaper than the Shops can afford the Goods being bought at People that broke. Several pretend to sell under the same Roman, but the greatest Choice and best Pennyworths is at the golden Sugar-Loaf right against the Horse at Charing Cross, with the new Suit of Canvis and Quilted Petticoats.

Balm of Gilead lately imported, Right and True, to be sold at the Bell and Dragon, the corner of Ke gate-Street Cheapside, for Half a Crown the Ounce, and cheaper in greater Quantities.

Just Published in Two Pocket-Volumes,

The Works of Mr. Thomas Otway, containing Alcibiades, Don Carlos Prince of Spain, Titus and Berenice, Friendship in Fashion, The Soldier's Fortune, The Atheist, The Orphan, or, The Unhappy Marriage, Caius Marius, Venice Preserv'd, or, A Plot discover'd; with his Poems on several Occasions, and some Love-Letters. To which is added, An Account of the Life and Writings of the Author. Printed for J. Tonson in the Strand, and sold by W. Taylor at the Ship in Paternoster-Row, at which Places may had the Tatlers, in Four Volum. 8. 8vo. printed on Royal and Medium Paper.

In a few Days will be publish'd,

Mr. le Clerc's Oration concerning the Excellence and Dignity of Ecclesiastical History, pronounc'd the 6th of September, 1712, upon his being chosen Professor among the Remonstrants at Amsterdam. To be sold by A. Baldwin in Warwick-lane, of whom may be had his Funeral Oration on Mr. Philip Limborch.

At the Union Coffee-house against the Royal Exchange, is to be heard of a Person that has found out a certain Remedy to prevent the Return of the GOUT, that it has been known to long Continuance; and tho' Physicians have generally pronounced this Distemper incurable, he goes upon good Grounds to affirm, that if any one will observe his easy Directions, he shall undertake they shall never have another Fit. He will come to any Person that desires it, upon their Invitation Note at the Bar at the Place above-mentioned where he may be on them. He also perfectly cures the Stone in the Bladder without Cutting, as he has several that were in such Extremity that they resolved to have been cut, whom he had made perfectly well without undergoing that terrible Operation.

Stoughton's great Cordial Elixir for the Stomach, and Bowels, is now in universal Esteem throughout most Parts of Europe, fully answering the Ends for which it is taken, viz. keeping the Body in perfect State of Health and Vigour, preserving it a great while from Infection or Distempers, and certainly destroying the Seeds of those Diseases when actually imbibed, as Fevers, Agues, Pox, &c. for Distempered go to Bed and Sweat with it, as many here have lately experienced to their Satisfaction, as well as some Time past in Jamaica, and the West-Indies, &c. being thought to be the most only essential Antidote that ever was found out for the purposes above-mentioned. Sea-men going to Sea or Travelling without it. Prepared only by him at his Ware-house in Red-Lyon-street, Southwark, to having it recommended most gracious Letters Patents for the sole making thereof. Sold, Retale, at many Places in and about London, also in some one Booksellers, Shopkeepers, or Coffee-houses, in most Cities and great Towns of Europe, at 1 s. a Bottle; Wholesale, at the Ware-house, Cheaper; but ready Money is expected of all at delivery. 'Tis a delightful Bitter, and most Gentlemen Drink it in Wine instead of any other, some to Beer, Ale, Tea, &c.

LONDON: Printed for *S. Buckley* and *J. Tonson*, and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*.

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